

Front Page	Edit Page	Other Page
		20

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CIA 'On Par' to Reds

CPYRGHT

America's Central Intelligence Agency is "on a par with and perhaps more objective" than the intelligence organizations of the Communist countries, a former top CIA official said here yesterday.

"The Russians spend as much time watching each other as they do watching the rest of the world," said Lyman B. Kirkpatrick Jr., professor of political science at Brown University. He retired last summer as executive director and comptroller of the CIA.

Professor Kirkpatrick said he doubted the existence of any sizeable Red Chinese or Russian intelligence apparatus in the United States. He said the Russians, to the best of his knowledge, "probably haven't penetrated the CIA."

Speaking in an interview on radio station WICE, the professor said he sees no other solution in Viet Nam "than to try to fight it through to a successful conclusion in which there can be a semblance of stability established and then a semblance of a free election without coercion."

In a later interview with the Brown Daily Herald, Professor Kirkpatrick said a magazine story about Michigan State University professors serving as a

"front" for the CIA in Viet Nam was "blown all out of proportions."

The story appeared in Ramparts, a magazine of liberal thought published on the West Coast by Catholic laymen.

Professor Kirkpatrick said Congress has a problem in that members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and House Foreign Affairs Committee are not on subcommittees reviewing the CIA. Those subcommittees come under the Appropriations and Armed Services Committee.

That means key persons on the foreign relations committees do not have the opportunity to question CIA officials, the professor said. The CIA is willing to talk at any time, he said, suggesting that Congress should straighten out this committee problem.